

ALPHA I STRIKE TEAM TOURS LAX BEFORE PRESIDENT OBAMA'S VISIT By Rakdy Khlok, EOB- Disaster Services Unit



Alpha I tours LAX's Department Operation Center—a central location for emergency/disaster coordination.

On November 1, 2013, LACDMH's Alpha I – Airport Response Strike Team responded to the active shooter incident that occurred in LAX. Since then, Emergency Outreach Bureau- Disaster Services Unit has worked with LAX to further enhance planning efforts. As a result, on July 23, 2013, the Alpha I Strike Team had an exclusive tour of the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX). The tour provided an opportunity for Strike Team Members to visit potential disaster staging locations, familiarize themselves with the layout of the airport, and meet partner agencies. Coincidentally, it was the same day of President Obama's visit to Southern California. The Team had a sneak peak of the President's staged military aircrafts that boarded later in the afternoon.



C-17s that were staged for President Obama.

To address the unique needs of airport related disaster incidents, the Emergency Outreach Bureau- Disaster Services Unit developed three Airport Response Strike Teams (Alpha I--LAX/Santa Monica; Alpha II-- Burbank/ Whiteman/ Van Nuys; and Alpha III--Long Beach). Members of the team represent various divisions in the

Department. Teams are trained to quickly deploy to airport related emergency incidents/ disasters. Members will provide support, assistance and treatment to impacted passengers, airport staff, concessionary staff, contract staff, first responders, etc. Services include psycho-education, psychological first aid, crisis intervention, crisis counseling, linkage, advocacy, and referrals.



Alpha I Strike Team

In June 2014, the Alpha II Team toured Bob Hope Airport in Burbank and in the coming months the Alpha III Team is scheduled to tour Long Beach Airport. These trainings are possible because of team members' commitment to their community and their supervisor's willingness to support the program. Thank you all!



Tour of the Bus Terminal—a location that sheltered over 2,000 people during the November 1, 2013 Active Shooter Incident at LAX.